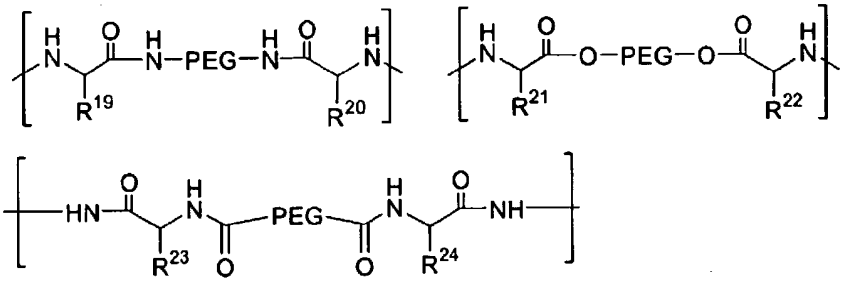
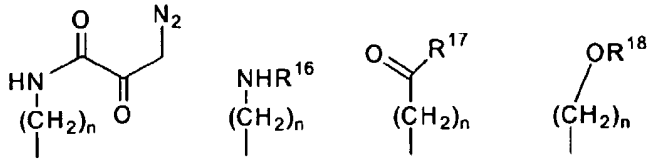
28. (Canceled).

29. (New) A polymer according to claim 10, wherein L comprises a structure selected from the group consisting of



wherein PEG is polyethyleneglycol, R^{19}-R^{24} are individually selected from the same groups as defined for R or comprise a structure selected from the group consisting of

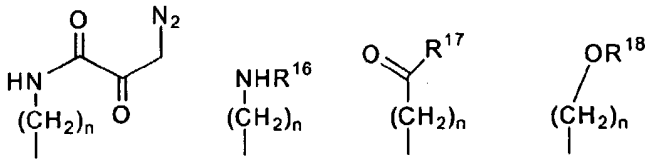


wherein n and R^{16} to R^{18} are as defined in claim 9, R^{19}-R^{24} optionally incorporating a pendent group comprising a cleavable linker unit.

30. (New) A polymer according to claim 1 wherein R, R^2 and R^3 are hydrogen.

31. (New) A polymer according to claim 13, wherein the polymer is conjugated to an anti cancer agent.

~~wherein PEG is polyethyleneglycol, R^{19}-R^{24} optionally incorporates a pendent group comprising a cleavable linker unit, and may additionally comprise groups individually selected from the same groups as defined for R or may comprise a structure selected from the group consisting of~~ [[



]]

~~wherein n and R^{16} to R^{18} and R^{16} to R^{18} are as defined in claim 9~~.

11. (Currently Amended) A polymer according to claim 9, wherein s is an integer [[of]] in the range from 1 to 10~~, preferably 1~~.

28 12

~~12.~~ (Currently Amended) [[a]] A polymer according to claim [[9]] ~~29~~, wherein at least one of R^{14} to R^{24} incorporates a cleavable bond~~, preferably a group (I) or one or more peptide bonds~~.

pH 6/18/04

13. (Currently Amended) A polymer according to claim 9, wherein the polymer is conjugated to a bioactive agent~~, preferably an anti cancer agent, most preferably, doxorubicin, daunomycin or taxol~~.

14. (Currently Amended) A polymer according to claim 9, wherein the number average molecular weight is in the range of 0.5kDa-400kDa.